

Dockets Management Branch (HFA – 305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Docket Number: 02N-0278

Dear Sirs:

After reviewing the Prior Notice of Imported Food Shipments Proposal, I believe that the proposal inadequately addresses the foreign Food Manufacturer's supply chain.

The proposed regulation requires all domestic processors, holders, and manufacturers between the Farm and the retailer to register. This gives complete supply chain visibility and traceability.

However, the proposed regulation requires only the final foreign manufacturer to register. This leaves the entire foreign supply chain open for potential bio-terrorism. It ignores all foreign food ingredient processors. In one example given in the proposal a US cooperative that processes wheat into flour would be required to register, yet a flour supplier to a processor that exports into the US would not be required to register. In addition to providing inadequate traceability, this proposed regulation places the US ingredient manufacturers at a competitive disadvantage.

I fully support the protection of our food supply and request that the regulations be revised to give the foreign food supply chain the same safety, security and visibility that the US food processors, manufacturers and suppliers will provide.

Sincerely,



Cc: Rep. Larry Combest Texas 19th Congressional District
Senator Kay Hutchison
Senator John Cornyn

02N-0278

C33